

SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET

626 CMCWU

17 December 1951

SUBJECT: REDSOX/LCHOMELY - Progress Reports 7 and 8.

TO: Chief, ZACACTUS
Washington, D.C.

INFO: Chief of Mission
Frankfurt, Germany

ATTN: []

ATTN: []

Attached herewith are progress reports 7 (Attachment A) and 8
(Attachment B) for LCHOMELY covering the month of November, prepared
by [] and [] Copies have been sent
through ZACABIN channels.

Distribution:

✓ 3 Washington w/2 Encl. one cpy eal
3 Frankfurt w/2 Encl. " " "
2 CSOB w/o Encl.
1 [] w/o Encl.

2 Enclosures: HERewith
Attachments A and B as stated.

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DATE 2008

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PROGRESS REPORT NO. 7

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1. LCHOMKLY
2. Indefinite
3. No changes

4. 30 October to 15 November 1951

Mario K. Giordano arrived in Munich November 5 and has established temporary residence in a safe house in order to avoid registering at a hotel. He will not continue to use the Munich safe house after training is begun in the area unless he is joined by his wife and child due to their inability to emigrate. The emigration of his wife and child is still a problem of such importance that it almost precludes the possibility of discussion of other matters with Giordano. Furthermore, the problem is no nearer solution, as we have received definitive word from BSI/INS that Giordano is inadmissible as a DP and that his family is consequently also inadmissible. As extraordinary means must be used in order to solve this problem, we have applied to Headquarters for Giordano's admission under the hundred agents' act. As stated in the request, failure to arrange Giordano's emigration would probably lead to the necessity of breaking relations with him since Giordano has refused chances to emigrate to Canada and Australia on our account, has refused to work for the British because emigration to England could not be promised him, and furthermore feels that he was promised emigration to the U.S. by our organization. Although he was informed by a lawyer from INS, with whom we arranged a meeting, that an appeal would be hopeless, Giordano is determined to reopen his case.

Arrangements are currently being made with [] for Giordano to assess the recruits individually in Stockholm. Giordano has been provided with a Temporary Travel Document, and is at present in Frankfurt applying for a Swedish visa while we await a reply from []. On the basis of the assessment, preparations for training can be made by Giordano in Munich with the training staff prior to the sending of the recruits to Munich for final assessments not feasible in Sweden (carriage and radio aptitude.) It is hoped that [] whose ETA in Germany was given as mid-November, will have arrived and been briefed by the time assessment in Munich begins.

5. Preparation of safe house in Obertedorf, coordination with communications and training staff.
6. Arrangement of emigration of Giordano and Family.
7. Nothing to report.
8. Nothing to Report.

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PROGRESS REPORT NO.8

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1. LCHOMELY
2. INDEFINITE
3. [] arrived 23 November.
4. 15-30 November 1951

A favorable answer concerning GIORDANO's trip to Stockholm for assessment of the recruits has been received, and the [] is arranging a secure meeting place for Giordano and the recruits and physicals for the recruits. Giordano's trip will be delayed until arrangements in Stockholm have been completed and until Giordano receives his visa. Unless the Swedes reject his application for a visa, Giordano expects to receive it in approximately two weeks. The difficulty in receiving a visa arises because he is a stateless Balt who has not been granted emigration to any country as yet. He has applied for the visa on the basis of an invitation from his two sisters and from his old friend Colonel Saarsen.

Giordano returned to Munich on Friday, 23 November, after applying for the visa and investigating the status of his emigration of his wife and child. The latter is a more hopeful situation at present, and it is believed that a separate emigration will be approved, although no definite word has been received. Further attempts to reverse the INS decision re Giordano are continuing, though believed hopeless.

Since his return to Munich, Giordano has been occupied drawing up a training schedule and writing a summary of his experiences with the Abwehr and the Finnish intelligence. These will form the basis of a training program to be worked out with Giordano by the training staff at MAT and [] who met Giordano on Wednesday, November 28. [] was particularly anxious to meet Giordano at this time in view of the problem of putting [] who arrived in Munich on Friday, 23 November, into the most useful position. It is apparent that [] because of his lack of experience and training, cannot be assigned to an LCHOMELY training program in a position superior to Giordano. It is also apparent that [] is too mature and experienced in other jobs to be assigned to Giordano as a subordinate field assistant. [] therefore feels that [] who speaks completely fluent Russian, would be more useful in connection with some project other than LCHOMELY, such as spotting, assessment and recruiting program under [] and []. [] will retain deep cover.

Since his arrival one week ago, [] has been debriefed on his past experiences, his training and recruitment, and his ideas on suitable deep cover for his job in Germany. No decision as to his final assignment has yet been reached, although use in the assessment field appears likely.

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5. Final assignment of [] procurement of field assistant for Giordano, preparation of safe house in Obertendorf, establishment of training program with Giordano, [] staff and communications staff in coordination with [] completion of arrangements for assessment of recruits in Stockholm by Giordano.

6. Arrangement of emigration of Giordano and perhaps also of his family.

7. Nothing to report.

8. As the LCHONELLY operation is as yet uncompromised, we feel that rather than starting training in Germany, the group should serve as the first experiment in training in the U.S., which, according to word brought back from Washington by [] and [] will eventually become the major training area. Since we feel that little doubt remains that the Kaufbeuren area has been compromised, an attempt is being made to remove all new training groups as far from MAT as possible. Therefore, the LCHONELLY group, if trained in Germany, would be located in Sonthofen, near Obertendorf. We feel that this attempt at isolation, while increasing the security, decreases the validity of the argument that better training facilities are available in Germany than in the U.S. Housing, space for practice of clandestine activities, weapons, training material, etc., are more readily and more securely available in the States than in Germany at the present time. We would like to press for a decision in favor of setting up the LCHONELLY program in the U.S. in the immediate future. At present the beginning of training would be timed for approximately 1 January. This date allows 2 weeks for the granting of Giordano's visa, 2 weeks for assessment in Stockholm, one week for further assessment in Germany (including administration of CARRIAGE and other tests), and one week's leeway for coordination and travel.